

Group 1 English A Language and Literature SL/HL

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

English A language and literature is a course which aims to recognise and build upon your work in the MYP. Whilst reading a range of literary and non-literary texts, you will investigate the nature of language itself and the ways in which it shapes and is influenced by identity and culture.

The most important task for you as a student of the IB language and literature course is to read, read widely and think critically about what you read. If you engage with the texts you encounter, respond personally and participate in class discussion, you will improve as a student and user of English.

DISTINCTION BETWEEN SL & HL

Number of Works and Assessment

| | Standard Level | Higher Level |
|--|---|--|
| Number of Literary Works studied (novels, plays, poetry collections etc) | 4 | 6 |
| External Assessment | | |
| Paper 1 Guided analysis of unseen non-literary passage/passages from different text types. | One guided analysis of a previously unseen non-literary extract or text from a choice of two (75 minutes) | Two guided analyses of previously unseen non-literary extracts or texts (135 minutes) |
| Paper 2 | Comparative essay based on two literary works written in response to a choice of one out of four questions (135 minutes - the assessment is the same for SL and HL students). | |
| Higher Level Essay | n/a | A 1200-1500 word essay exploring a line of inquiry in connection with a studied body of work or work |
| Internal Assessment | | |
| Individual oral | Prepared oral response on the way that one literary work and one non-literary body of work studied have approached a common global issue (a 10 minute commentary followed by a 5 minute Q&A - the assessment is the same for SL and HL students). | |

SELECTION OF TEXTS

Apart from the required number of literary texts, students need to familiarize themselves with a variety of text-types such as:

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Advertisement | Infographic | Magazine article |
| Encyclopedia entry | Diary* | Speech* |
| Appeal | Essay* | Electronic texts |
| Film/television | Cartoon | Set of instructions |
| Brochure/leaflet | Letter (formal)* | Blog |
| Biography* | Screenplay | Parody |
| Guide book | Diagram | Memoir* |
| Photographs | Letter (informal) * | Travel writing* |

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The assessment criteria is similar to the MYP. You will be assessed on your ability to analyse texts, to construct well organised paragraphs, essays and oral commentaries, and to write/speak accurate English.

Paper 1

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Criterion A | Understanding and interpretation | 5 marks |
| Criterion B | Analysis and evaluation | 5 marks |
| Criterion C | Focus and organisation | 5 marks |
| Criterion D | Language | 5 marks |
| Total | | 20 marks |

Paper 2

| | | |
|--------------|---|-----------------|
| Criterion A | Knowledge, Understanding and interpretation | 10 marks |
| Criterion B | Analysis and evaluation | 10 marks |
| Criterion C | Focus and organisation | 5 marks |
| Criterion D | Language | 5 marks |
| Total | | 30 marks |

HL Essay

| | | |
|--------------|---|-----------------|
| Criterion A | Knowledge, Understanding and interpretation | 5 marks |
| Criterion B | Analysis and evaluation | 5 marks |
| Criterion C | Focus and organisation | 5 marks |
| Criterion D | Language | 5 marks |
| Total | | 20 marks |

Individual Orals

| | | |
|--------------|---|-----------------|
| Criterion A | Knowledge, Understanding and interpretation | 10 marks |
| Criterion B | Analysis and evaluation | 10 marks |
| Criterion C | Focus and organisation | 10 marks |
| Criterion D | Language | 10 marks |
| Total | | 40 marks |

How difficult is English Language & Literature?

| Subject | Recommendations 推薦の言葉 |
|-----------|--|
| English A | <p>Phase 5 minimum. (WIDA 5+). At least one semester in an English L&L environment.</p> <p>All things being equal, DP grades shouldn't differ too significantly from MYP grades (Note: it is difficult to get a 7 or less than a 4 - so long as you try hard on your coursework).</p> <p>If you have been scoring poorly at MYP, such as grade 3 and below, it is NOT recommended that you choose English Language and Literature at DP.</p> |